

41485 to 41488—Continued.

41488. *ANNONA PURPUREA* Moc. and Sesse. Annonaceæ. **Soncaya.**

"This fruit has only two defects—the seeds are too large and are 'cling.' It is recommended for crossing with *Annona squamosa* and *Annona cherimola*."

41489. *HALESIA CAROLINA MONTICOLA* Lehd. Styracaceæ.
Mountain silverbell.

Seeds from Jamaica Plain, Mass. Presented by Prof. C. S. Sargent, Arnold Arboretum. Received November 13, 1915.

"The silver-bell tree of the Southern States, *Halesia tetraptera*, has long been cultivated in northern gardens. It is usually shrubby in habit with several stout, wide-spreading stems, and here at the North rarely grows more than 15 to 20 feet high. It is an inhabitant of the Southern States from West Virginia and southern Illinois to northern Florida and eastern Texas. It grows at low altitudes and does not appear to ascend to the slopes of the high Appalachian Mountains, although the *Halesia* of those mountain forests was long considered identical with the lowland tree. The *Halesia* of the high slopes, however, is a tree often 80 to 90 feet high, with a trunk 3 feet in diameter, sometimes free of branches for a distance of 60 feet from the ground. It is apparently only in recent years that this mountain tree has been introduced into cultivation by the Biltmore Nursery. From Biltmore it was sent to the parks of Rochester, N. Y., and from Rochester it came to the Arboretum with a description of its peculiar habit, large flowers, and fruit. The mountain tree, which has lately been distinguished here as var. *monticola*, grows as a tree from the time the seed germinates, and the seedlings show no variation of habit. Young trees are clean stemmed with short branches which form a narrow pyramidal head. The leaves are of rather different shape and less hairy than those of the lowland tree; the flowers are fully a third larger and the fruit is nearly twice as large. Trees less than 10 feet produce flowers and fruit in abundance. There is now every reason to believe that the mountain *Halesia* will prove one of the handsomest flowering trees of large size which it is possible to cultivate in this climate. Its tall trunk and narrow head suggest that it may prove a good street and roadside tree." (*Arnold Arboretum, Bulletin of Popular Information.*)

41490. *COLOCASIA ESCULENTA* (L.) Schott. Araceæ.

Tubers from Joinville, Brazil. Presented by Mr. Jean Knatz. Received October 25, 1915.

"*Cara* (*Kara*). *Cara* is much used to mix with flour after being baked, in order to make the bread used by the farmers, into which enter sweet potatoes, cassava, flour and 'taya,' especially now that wheat flour is so expensive. I think the larger sort of 'cara' is the taro of the South Sea Islands." (*Knatz.*)

41491 and 41492.

Seeds from Chungking, China. Presented by Mr. E. Widler. Received November 18, 1915. Quoted notes by Mr. Widler.

41491. *CUCURBITA PEPO* L. Cucurbitaceæ. **Nan kua.**

"*Nan kua*. A creeping plant 10 to 15 feet long; grows best at a temperature of 70° to 110° F. It takes about three months to mature; bears yellow flowers and fruits in the autumn. The fruit is 5 feet in circumference and weighs about 40 catties. It is used only as a vegetable